Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00675 201619Z ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 /027 W

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R 201419Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8740

UNCLAS LAGOS 00675

PASS TO OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EINV, NI

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL HOTEL JOINT VENTURE

- 1. JOHN EKONG, A NIGERIAN STRUCTURAL ENGINEER, HAS ASKED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN SOLICITING U.S. HOTELIER'S INTEREST IN JOINT VENTURE CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF 500-600 ROOM LUXURY CLASS HOTEL ON MAINLAND PART OF LAGOS. EMBASSY IN PROCESS OF INVESTIGATING EKONG'S FINANCES: EMBOFF'S IMPRESSION OF EKONG FROM INITIAL INTERVIEW WAS FAVORABLE.
- 2. EKONG ENVISIONS JOINT VENTURE OF U.S. HOTELIER AND GROUP OF PRIVATE NIGERIANS. DOMINANT NIGERIAN PARTY WOULD BE BANK OF THE NORTH ACCORDING TO EKONG. ALTHOUGH EKONG EXPECTS U.S. FIRM TO CONTRIBUTE SOME CAPITAL, TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE IS MORE IMPORTANT. EQUITY SPLIT, MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS, ETC. SUBJECT TO NEGOTATION.
- 3. EMBASSY BELIEVES EKONG'S PROPOSAL MERITS ATTENTION, ALTHOUGH POTENTIAL U.S. PARTNERS SHOULD MOVE CAUTIOUSLY UNTIL HIS BONA FIDES ARE ESTABLISHED. REQUEST OPIC SOLICIT PRELIMINARY INTEREST FROM U.S. HOTELIERS AND PASS REACTION TO EMBASSY. EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

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Control Number: n/a

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Subject: POTENTIAL HOTEL JOINT VENTURE

TAGS: EINV, NI, (EKONG, JOHN)

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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